

Message Text

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USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
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AMCONGEN HONG KONG PRIORITY
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1. SECURITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE --

AFRICAN GROUP DECIDED TO REQUEST THAT SECURITY COUNCIL APARTHEID DEBATE BEGN MARCH 21 AND THAT AFRICAN "WORKING GROUP" BEGIN DISCUSSION LATE WEEK OF MARCH 7 OF ELEMENTS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION. MANY AFRICANS ARE NOW THINKING THAT THODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN QUESTIONS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE SC IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MAPUTO CONFERENCE (TENTATIVELY MAY 16-21), AND MAURITIAN PERMREP RAMPHUL REPORTEDLY IS REJUVENATING IDEA OF HAVING THOSE SC DEBATES IN EITHER BOTSWANA OR MAURITIUS. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE -- USUN 598)

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2. AMB YOUNG'S MEETING WITH SWAPO VICE PRESIDENT --

WHEN SWAPO VICE PRESIDENT MUYONGO, AT HIS REQUEST, CALLED ON AMB YOUNG, THE AMBASSADOR BRIEFED HIM ON LATEST USG THINKING CONCERNING NAMIBIAN SITUATION, REVIEWED HIS CONVERSATION WITH SAM NUJOMA, AND POINTED OUT THAT IF SWAPO IS WAITING ONLY FOR A MILITARY SOLUTION IT IS PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF MUCH BETTER PREPARED SAG. AMB YOUNG EMPHASIZED NEED FOR USG TO MOVE DIPLOMATICALLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MUYONGO DESCRIBED SWAPO AS BEING FLEXIBLE BUT PRINCIPLED, WITH THREE-PRONGED STRUGGLE: (A) WITHIN NAMIBIA, (KB) ARMED WARFARE, AND (C) DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. WHEN DRAWN OUT, HE OBSERVED THAT SWAPO WOULD NOT OBJECT TO TURNHALLE PARTICIPANTS JOINING THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION IN DIRECT MEETINGS WITH SWAPO UNDER UN AUSPICES. WHILE SWAPO IS FIGHTING A WAR, IT IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE, BUT STILL AWAITS PRETORIA'S ANSWERS TO ITS PRECONDITIONS. HE SAW GREAT DANGER OF A CIVIL WAR IN NAMIBIA -- GREATER THAN THAT WHICH OCCURRED IN ANGOLA -- SHOULD THE TURNHALLE

CONFERENCE BE PURSUED. HE SAID SWAPO IS MAKING NO REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL MILITARY FORCES, AND HE THOUGHT THAT WITH SOUTH AFRICA WEAK AT THE PRESENT TIME IT WOULD BE PROPITIOUS TO MOVE FORWARD ON A SPECIAL GA CONCERNING NAMIBIA.
(CONFIDENTIAL -- USUN 593)

3. REACTIONS TO SYG'S REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST --

PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO THE SYG'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE EAST CONCENTRATE ON TWO IMPRESSIONS: THAT REPORT WAS NOT ONE OF THE ROUTINE SECRETARIAT PRODUCTS, AND THAT WHILE A "SUCCESS," ITS EVENHANDEDNESS PROVOKED CERTAIN CRITICISM FROM BOTH SIDES. EGYPTIANS NOTED THEY WERE IN EMBARRASSING POSITION OF NOT WANTING TO LOSE FORWARD MOMENTUM OF GA RES 31/62, FOLLOWED BY GOOD SYG REPORT, WHILE AT SAME TIME WISHING TO AVOID SC MEETING THAT WOULD RUN RISK OF MOVING INTO SUBSTANCE. ISRAELIS THOUGHT THE REPORT
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WAS GOOD ATTEMPT AT OBJECTIVITY, BUT PLACED UNDUE STRESS ON PLO. BRITISH REPORTED THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH PLO UN OBSERVER TERZI, LATTER TOOK EXCEPTION TO SYG'S SUGGESTING PLO SHOULD CHANGE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL CHARTER AND HE BELIEVED CHARTER CLEARLY WOULD NOT BE CHANGED. SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL WHO WAS PRINCIPAL DRAFTING OFFICER OF REPORT SAID ARABS REACTED CAUTIOUSLY TO PROPOSALS OF INTERIM MEASURES. IDEA OF WORKING GROUP ORIGINATED WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, HE DISCLOSED. (CONFIDENTIAL -- USUN 595)

4. TUNISIAN PERMREP'S VISIT TO PUERTO RICO --

TUNISIAN PERMREP MESTIRI EMPHASIZED HOW INTERESTING HIS VISIT TO PUERTO RICO HAD BEEN, SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED TO SEE A "FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY" AT WORK, AND EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT THE RECENT ELECTION WAS A FAIR AND ACCURATE REFLECTION OF THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO THOUGH HE DOUBTED THAT COMMONWEALTH IS A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE IN THE LONG RUN. HE REMARKED THAT THE WHOLE ISSUE PROVED TO BE MUCH MORE COMPLEX AND NUANCED THAN HE HAD ANTICIPATED. HE THOUGHT PUERTO RICANS WERE MUCH MORE PERSUASIVE ADVOCATES OF THEIR STATUS THAN NORTH AMERICAN OFFICIALS, AND SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR PUERTO RICAN COMMONWEALTH REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET INDIVIDUALLY AND INFORMALLY IN NEW YORK WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF 24. HE ALSO SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO WITH A WIDE RANGE OF UN MEMBERS. CONCERNING HIS REPORTED STATEMENT THAT A UN PRESENCE WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR ANY FUTURE STATUS REFERENDUM IN PUERTO RICO, HE EXPLAINED HE REALIZED IT CONTRADICTED US VIEWS ON THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO'S

STATUS BUT HE MADE THE STATEMENT BECAUSE OF HIS CONVICTION
THAT THE ELECTIONS WERE INDEED HONEST AND ACCURATE.
(CONFIDENTIAL -- USUN 596)

5. SIGNING OF ENMOD CONVENTION --
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AMB SHERER EXPLAINED TO ASSISTANT SYG BJORNERSTED US
LEGAL PROBLEMS IN SIGNING ENMOD CONVENTION AND REQUESTED
THAT THE SYG DELAY OPENING OF THE CONVENTION FOR SIGNATURE
UNTIL THESE PROBLEMS ARE RESOLVED AND SIMULTANEOUS US/SOVIET
SIGNATURE POSSIBLE. BJORNERSTED SAID TEXTS IN ALL
LANGUAGES WOULD BE COMPLETED THIS WEEK, BUT IN VIEW OF
US REQUEST HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THEIR DISTRIBUTION
BE DELAYED AND THAT THE SECRETARIAT STATE DELAY DUE
TO DIFFICULTIES IN PREPARING TEXTS. HE INDICATED SYG WALDHEIM
HAS STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN ENMOD SIGNING CEREMONY --
THE FIRST DISARMAMENT CONVENTION FOR WHICH HE IS DE-
POSITARY -- AND BELIEVES MAXIMUM EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE
TO ASSURE THAT THE CONVENTION WILL BE SIGNED ON FIRST DAY
BY A LARGE NUMBER OF STATES AND AT A HIGH LEVEL. SOVIET
COUNSELOR TULINOV TOLD US POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT THE
SOVIETS ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SIMULTANEOUS US/SOVIET
SIGNATURE ON OPENING DAY IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE MAXIMUM
NUMBER OF OTHER STATES ALSO TO SIGN EARLY. HE NOTED INFORMAL
SOVIET SURVEY INDICATES ABOUT 38 OTHER STATES READY TO
SIGN ON OPENING DAY AND ANOTHER 29 INDICATED READINESS
TO SIGN SHORTLY THEREAFTER. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE --
USUN 585)

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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6. US/CUBAN RELATIONS --

FOLLOWING HIS RECENT RETURN FROM CUBA, TUNISIAN PERM-
REP MESTIRI SAID THERE WAS A GENERAL EXPECTATION OF MOVEMENT IN US/CUBAN RELATIONS AMONG OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE HAD
SPOKEN. (CONFIDENTIAL -- USUN 596)

7. FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT --

FOCUS OF APRIL FRANCOPHONE SUMMIT IN DAKAR WILL BE FURTHER
ADVANCEMENT BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR OF HIS PROPOSAL FOR A FRANCOPHONE
COMMONWEALTH, ACCORDING TO FRENCH. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE --
USUN 594)

8. VIGIL AT AEROFLOT OFFICES --

YEAR-LONG "FREEDOM VIGIL" BEING CONDUCTED BY GREATER NEW YORK
CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY AT OFFICES OF AREOFLOT HAS BEEN
IN OPERATION NOW FOR TWO WEEKS, WITH EXCEPTION OF FEB. 25

WHEN LOCATION WAS CHANGED TO SOVIET UN MISSION. AEROFLOT OFFICES ARE CLOSED TO OFF-THE-STREET BUSINESS DURING THE HOUR THE VIGIL IS CONDUCTED, USUALLY BY SIX, BUT NOT MORE THAN 12 PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN HANDING OUT LITERATURE ON SOVIET JEWRY. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE -- USUN 587)

9. UN CHARTER REVIEW --

US, UK, FRENCH AND SOVIET DELOFFS DISCUSSED TACTICS IN CHARTER REVIEW EXERCISE. US, UK, AND TO SOME EXTENT FRENCH, BELIEVE THAT SOME COMPROMISE OR APPARENT COMPROMISE ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES WILL HAVE TO BE REACHED WITH "REVISIONISTS" TO AVOID ANGRY EXPLOSION IN COMMITTEE OR GA WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO CHANGES IN COMMITTEE'S MANDATE. SOVIETS, ON OTHER HAND, BELIEVE THAT "REVISIONISTS" WILL EVENTUALLY BOW TO NEED FOR BIG POWER AGREEMENT AND COMMITTEE CONSENSUS, AND THEY CLAIM TO HAVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW NOT TO AGREE TO ANNEXATION OF THE MEXICAN LIST TO THE COMMITTEE
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REPORT. THE US, UK, FRENCH DELS PUT FORWARD VARIOUS PLANS TO NEUTRALIZE MEXICAN LIST. SOVIETS REJECTED ALL OF THEM, BUT DID AGREE THAT BIG FOUR SHOULD HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER REVISIONISTS IN EXCHANGE FOR NOT ALLOWING ANNEXATION OF THE MEXICAN LIST. THEY FINALLY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO RECONSIDER SOME COMPROMISE ALTERNATIVES IF CLEAR DANGER OF BLOW UP IN COMMITTEE SURFACED.

ON SEPARATE ISSUE, FRENCH ASKED FOR UNITY IN SUPPORT OF VAN LAETHAM OF FRANCE, WHO IS UNDER ATTACK IN ECOSOC RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE, SAYING IF ONE PERMANENT MEMBER UNDER SECRETARY WERE OUSTED THIS YEAR, OTHERS COULD FACE SAME THREAT NEXT YEAR. SOVIETS PROFESSED IGNORANCE OF THE SITUATION, BUT SAID THEY WOULD LOOK INTO IT. (CONFIDENTIAL -- USUN 597)

10. UN RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE --

FOLLOWING THE CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION, THE UN RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE'S CONTACT GROUP BEGAN CONSIDERATION MARCH 1 OF SECTION V (OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES) OF THE CONSOLIDATED TEXT WITH GENERAL OVERALL STATEMENTS. THE BASIC THRUST OF THIS SECTION WAS GENERALLY SUPPORTED BY NON-SOCIALIST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING EC-9, CANADA, FINLAND, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND AND JAPAN. USDEL REITERATED THE BASIC THEMES OF THE INFORMAL PAPER ON THIS SECTION WHICH IT CIRCULATED EARLIER, STRESSING THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE INCREASING PROLIFERATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY FOR SEPARATE PROGRAMS. THE PRELIMINARY G-77 POSITION INCLUDED POTENTIALLY UNACCEPTABLE ELEMENTS, SUCH AS MAKING ALL OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONTROL FROM "THE NEW YORK CENTER" AND ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE DEPARTMENT HEADED BY AN INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR UNDER THE SYG RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL UN SECRETARIAT OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES. IN PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THE G-77, USDEL

(KITCHEN), SPEAKING OF ENSURING INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS, SAID IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT A MORE EFFICIENT UN SYSTEM INEVITABLY WOULD INCREASE THE CONFIDENCE OF DONOR NATIONS, AND IT MUST NOT BE PRESUMED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO INCREASE UN SYSTEM DELIVERY IS TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS. REGARDING UN SECRETARIAT
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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES, USDEL SUGGESTED THE CONTACT GROUP NEEDS BETTER FACTUAL INFORMATION REGARDING WHAT THE G-77 CONSIDERS TO BE CONFUSION OF AUTHORITY IN THE SECRETARIAT. EC-9 SPOKESMAN (UK) REGARDED IT AS CURIOUS THAT THE G-77 ARE CALLING FOR MAKING THE SECRETARIAT ORGAN CHARGED WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICING OF SUBSTANTIVE UNITS IN THE EXECUTIO OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES INTO THE RESPONSIBLE LEAD ORGAN RATHER THAN A SERVICE ORGAN.
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE -- USUN 586)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

11. JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24 AND COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA --

JOINT MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24 AND CUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MARCH 2 APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY A REPORT OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE ON HOLDING THE UN CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA IN MAPUTO MAY 16-21, 1977. THE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS CONCERNING THE STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE WERE MADE IN THE LIGHT OF THE LIMITED FACILITIES AND SERVICES WHICH WOULD BE AVAIL-
ABLE. PLEDGES OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD THE COST OF THE CONFERENCE WERE MADE BY THE PHILIPPINES, \$1,000, AND BY PAKISTAN, \$10,000 (SECRETARIAT ANNOUNCED AUSTRIA PLEDGED \$5,000), BRING-
ING TOTAL PLEDGES TO \$97,500 OF THE \$246,500 REQUIRED. KAMANA (ZAMBIA), PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, AND SALIM (TANZANIA), CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF 24, EMPHASIZED THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS, SINCE THE SYG REQUIRES \$213,700, OR 90 PERCENT OF COSTS, BEFORE HE CAN ENTER INTO FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS RELATING TO THE CONFERENCE, AND THE NEED FOR A MINIMUM OF THREE MONTHS LEAD TIME IN SUPPLYING CERTAIN EQUIP-
MENT.

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12. COMMITTEE OF 24 -- NAMIBIA

MRS. GBUJAMA (SIERRA LEONE), ONLY SPEAKER ON NAMIBIA MARCH 2,
TOLD THE COMMITTEE IT WAS REGRETTABLE THAT THE US INITIATIVE IN
SOUTHERN AFRICA, MARKED BY THE "MUCH PUBLICIZED" TRIPS OF FORMER
SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, HAD NOT YIELDED THE EXPECTED
RESULTS. THE PRESIDENTS OF THE FRONT- LINE STATES HAD DONE EVERY-
THING TO HELP, BUT IT HAD NOT PROVED POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE A MEETING
BEWTEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAPO, AND THE SITUATION HAD ACTUALLY
WORSENER. SWAPO WAS WAITING FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES THAT
WOULD RESULT IN SOUTH AFRICA DISCUSSING WITH IT THE TRANSFER OF
POWER TO SWAPO. WITH THE COMMITMENT OF THE NEW US ADMINISTRATION

TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND WITH VARIOUS PRONOUNCEMENTS FROM OUTSTANDING USG PERSONALITIES, SIERRA LEONE HOPED NEW INITIATIVES MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING IN THAT DIRECTION. HOWEVER, THERE WAS NEED FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION. SHE BELIEVED THE COMMITTEE SHOULD ACCEPT THE REASONABLE EIGHT POINTS PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE BY SWAPO VICE PRESIDENT MIYONGO, AND SHE FELT THAT A COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION THAT WOULD EMBRACE ALL EIGHT POINTS WOULD REPRESENT "THE LEAST COLLECTIVE ACTION NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE DEFEAT OF SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY IN NAMIBIA." CHAIRMAN SALIM (TANZANIA) ANNOUNCED THAT VUIBOBO (FIJI) AGREED TO LEAD THE VISITING MISSION TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS, AND HE SAID THE OTHER TWO MEMBERS OF THE MISSION WOULD BE NOMINATED AS SOON AS CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED.

13. COMMITTEE OF 24 SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES --

GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN BERMUDA WERE MADE IN THE SUBCOMMITTEE MARCH 2 BY REPRESENTATIVES OF CHILE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, NORWAY AND AUSTRALIA. MONSALVE (CHILE) SAID IT WAS CLEAR THAT SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE AND THE UK HAD CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE POLITICAL PREPARATION OF BERMUDAN CITIZENS TOWARD INDEPENDENCE. SEALY (TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO), AFTER MAKING GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE IN DECOLONIZATION, REMARKED THAT THE QUESTION OF FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF

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BERMUDA DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE HAD A HIGH DEGREE OF EXPOSURE DURING THE 1976 ELECTION CAMPAIGN. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT A PAPER WAS SOON TO BE PLACED BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA AT LARGE, AND SAID THE BERMUDA ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE CONGRATULATED ON ITS POPULAR CONSULTATIONS APPROACH. HE SUGGESTED THAT A WAY TO FURTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COULD BE OPENED UP THROUGH THE PROVISIONS OF ADEQUATE TRAINING FOR THE BERMUDANS WHICH WOULD ENABLE THEM TO STAFF ALL LEVELS OF THE TOURIST INDUSTRY, THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SECTOR AND THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

MRS. FINBORUD (NORWAY) HOPED THE UK WOULD KEEP THE SUBCOMMITTEE INFORMED OF THE RESULT OF A RECENT SURVEY ON UNEMPLOYMENT IN BERMUDA. THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA THEMSELVES, NOT THE OUTSIDERS, HAD TO DECIDE ON THE FORM OF POLITICAL INSTITUTION THEY WISHED TO HAVE, AS WELL AS THE KIND OF RELATIONSHIP THEY WISHED TO HAVE WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD, SHE STATED. FORRESTER (AUSTRALIA) WAS IMPRESSED BY THE "LIVELY" POLITICAL DEBATE TAKING PLACE IN BERMUDA AND WELCOMED THE WORK BEING DONE ON THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. ON BERMUDA'S FUTURE, HE DESCRIBED WESTERN SAMOA'S CONTINUED RELATIONSHIP WITH NEW ZEALAND, WHICH OFFERED AN ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE TO A SMALL TERRITORY, AND SUGGESTED THE UK MIGHT CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP A SIMILAR RELATIONSHIP WITH BERMUDA IN THE FUTURE. DALTON (UK) THANKED DELEGATIONS FOR THEIR "GENEROUS" COMMENTS ON THE ROLE UK

HAD PLAYED IN THE DECOLONIZATION OF BERMUDA. (REPEATED INFO
HAMILTON)

14. UGANDA --

AT MARCH 2 PRESS BRIEFING, UK SPOKESMAN READ STATEMENT RELEASED IN
LONDON REPORTING THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT
THE UK PROPOSAL FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN
UGANDA HAD BEEN NARROWLY DEFEATED IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.
SPOKESMAN STATED THAT PROBABLY BY THE END OF THE WEEK BRITAIN WOULD
BRING THE PROPOSAL UP AGAIN IN OPEN FORUM. (USUN 591)

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15. US CONTRIBUTION TO UNDRO --

ON MARCH 2 USUN DELIVERED TO THE UN A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$250,000 REPRESENTING US PAYMENT TO THE UN DISASTER RELIEF
COORDINATOR FOR 1977.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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